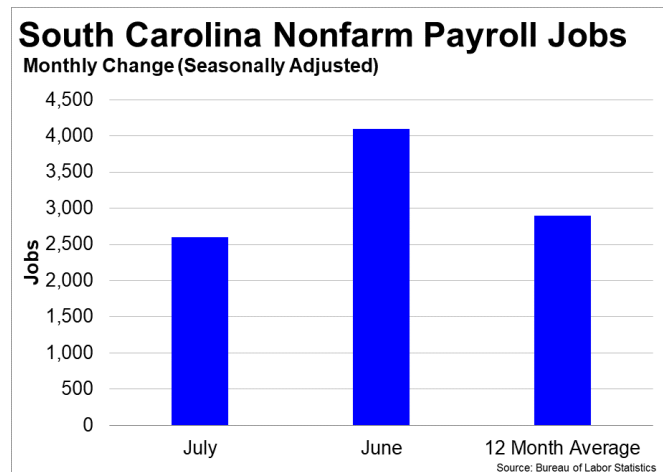
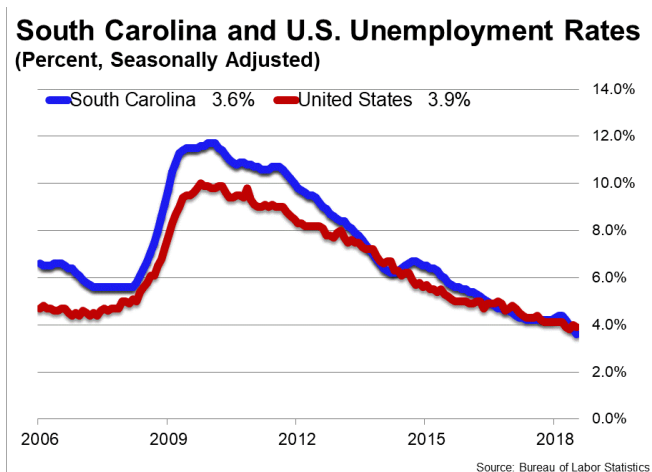


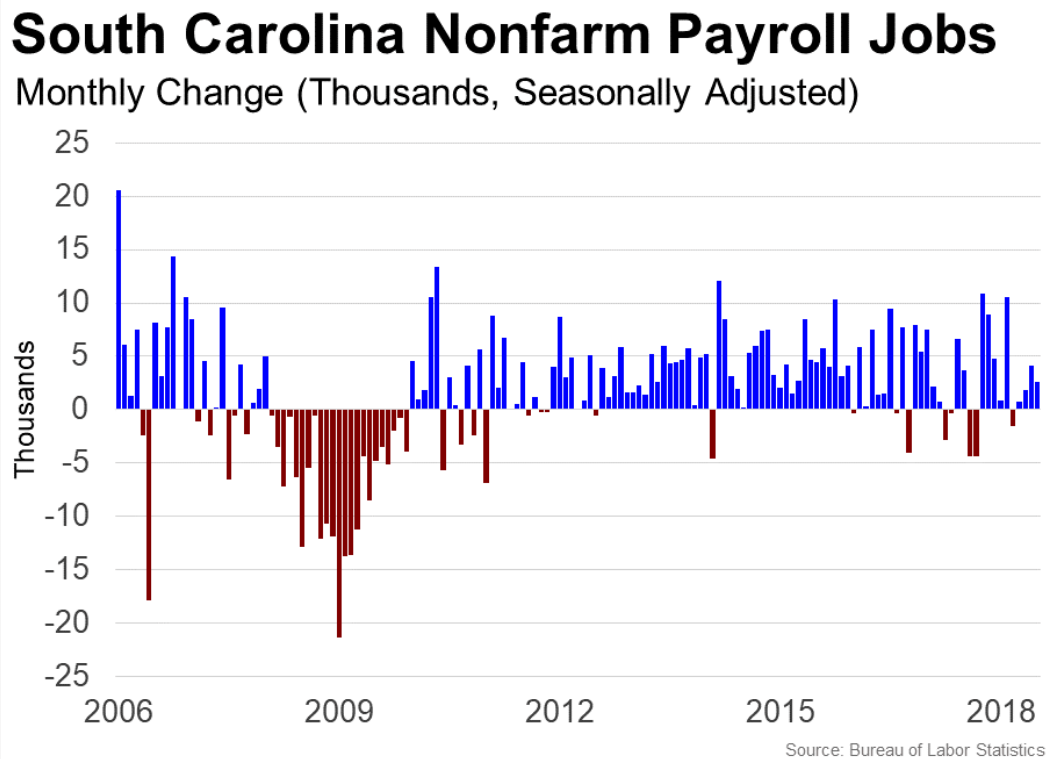


August 17, 2018

### Summary

- **South Carolina added 2,600 jobs and the unemployment rate declined by 0.2 percentage point to 3.6 percent in July** according to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data.
- **Over the past twelve months, South Carolina added 34,800 jobs** and the unemployment rate fell by 0.6 percentage point from 4.2 percent.
- **In July, South Carolina's private sector added 2,600 jobs** and over the past twelve months it created 35,100 jobs.
- The number of **unemployed South Carolinians fell by 4,766 in July**, and over the past year 11,281 South Carolinians found jobs.
- South Carolina's **labor force participation rate decreased to 57.6 percent** from 57.7 percent in July. Since last year, the labor force participation rate fell 1 percentage point.
- The national unemployment rate **declined by 0.1 percentage point to 3.9 percent in July**. State employment and unemployment data for August is scheduled for release on September 21, 2018. The national employment situation report for August will be released on Friday, September 7, 2018.





### **South Carolina Payroll Employment**

South Carolina added 2,600 jobs, or 0.12 percent, on a seasonally adjusted basis during July. In the prior month, South Carolina added 4,100 jobs. Over the past twelve months, nonfarm payrolls in South Carolina increased by 34,800, or 1.66 percent. South Carolina nonfarm payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

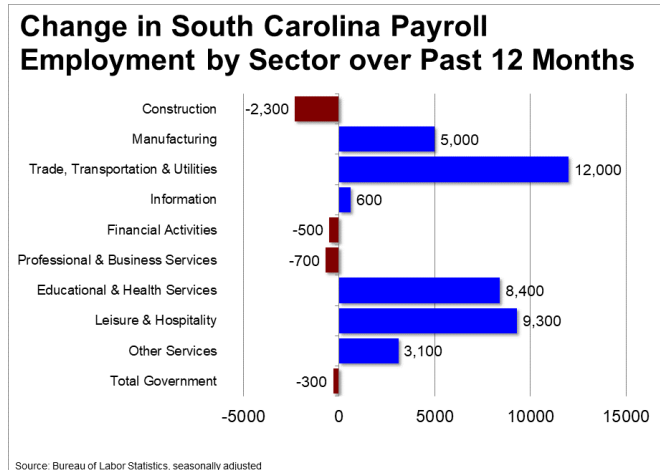
Nationally, nonfarm payrolls increased by 157,000 jobs in July, or 0.11 percent. Over the 12-month period ending July 2018, nonfarm payrolls grew by 2,400,000 jobs, or 1.64 percent. South Carolina ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in nonfarm payroll employment over the past 12 months.

During July, South Carolina's private-sector added 2,600 jobs, or 0.15 percent. The private-sector in South Carolina added 4,200 jobs in the prior month. Over the past twelve months, private-sector payrolls in South Carolina increased by 35,100, or 2.03 percent. South Carolina private-sector payroll employment has increased in 9 of the past 12 months.

Nationally, private-sector payroll jobs increased by 170,000 jobs in July, or 0.13 percent. Over the past 12 months, the nation's economy has added 2,392,000 jobs in the private-sector, an increase of 1.92 percent. South Carolina ranks 27th among the 50 states and the District of Columbia for percentage gain in private-sector payroll employment over the past 12 months.

The best performing sectors on a seasonally adjusted basis during July were Construction (+1,500) and Manufacturing (+1,100). The poorest performing sectors during the month were Leisure & Hospitality (-1,000) and Other Services (-500).

The best performing sectors during the last twelve months were Trade, Transportation & Utilities (+12,000) and Leisure & Hospitality (+9,300). The poorest performing sectors during the last twelve months were Construction (-2,300) and Professional & Business Services (-700).



## South Carolina Labor Force Statistics

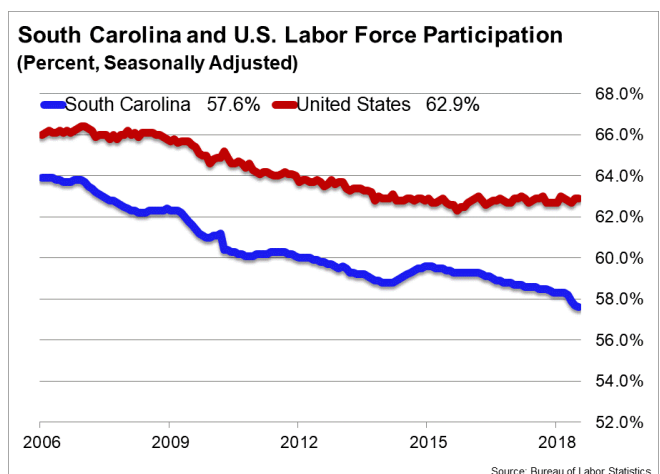
### *Labor Force Participation*

The labor force participation rate in South Carolina declined to 57.6 percent in July from 57.7 percent the prior month. At 57.6 percent, South Carolina has one of the five lowest labor force participation rates in the nation. The labor force participation rate in South Carolina is unchanged from a year earlier. The labor force participation rate is the percentage of the civilian noninstitutionalized population age 16 and older who are employed or actively looking for work.

The 10-year high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina was 62.4 percent in December 2008. The series high for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina occurred in July 1993 when the labor force participation rate hit 67.0 percent. The 10-year low for the labor force participation rate was 57.6 percent in July 2018. This also represents the series low for the labor force participation rate in South Carolina. The national labor force participation rate was unchanged at 62.9 percent, but remains near its 38-year low of 62.4 percent.

### *Employment-to-Population Ratio*

The employment-to-population ratio, or the percentage of the South Carolina civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and older counted as employed, declined to 55.5 percent in July from 55.6 percent the prior



month. Among the 50 states and the District of Columbia, 45 have higher employment-to-population ratios than South Carolina. The employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina is 0.6 percentage point lower than a year earlier.

The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina was 57.8 percent in August 2008. The series high for the employment-to-population ratio in South Carolina occurred in May 1990 when the employment-to-population ratio hit 63.8 percent. The 10-year low for the employment-to-population ratio was 53.5 percent in April 2010. The series low for the employment-to-population ratio occurred in May 2010 when the employment-to-population ratio was 53.5 percent.

The national employment-to-population ratio rose by 0.1 percentage point to 60.5 percent in July. That rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than a year earlier. The all-time high for the employment-to-population ratio was 64.7 in April 2000. The 10-year high for the employment-to-population ratio was 63.4 percent in December 2006. The recent low occurred in October 2013 when the employment-to-population ratio dipped to 58.2 percent. The last time the employment-to-population ratio posted a reading lower than 58.2 percent was July 1983.

